

Remarks/Arguments:

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed March 14, 2006. An appropriate Petition for Extension of Time to Respond is submitted herewith, together with the appropriate fee.

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 10, 12-14, 16-18, 20-22, 24-28 and 30-33 were pending in the Application prior to the outstanding Office Action. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 10, 12-14, 16-18, 20-22, 24-28 and 30-33.

Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-10, 12-14, 16-18, 20-22 and 24-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,101,506 to Ukai et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,894,333 to Kanda et al.

The Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. The independent claims 1, 9, 13, 17, and 25 state that "when a search is performed on the plurality of objects the representative will be returned if any of the objects of the group meet a search parameter". This limitation is not shown, suggested or given a motivation for in the cited references. In particular, although Kanda does describe searching for video clips by using a representative images, this search does not use "search parameters". The search of Kanda is apparently a visual search of the representative images in order to find video clips. The representative images make such a visual search easier. The search of Kanda doesn't need "search parameters", the user in Kanda can scroll through the representative images by using the side scroll bar without doing a parametered search.

For the above reasons, the combination of Ukai and Kanda does not create the systems and method of independent claims 1, 9, 13, 17 and 25.

Claims 2, 4-7, 10, 12-14, 16, 18, 20-22, 24, 26-28, and 30-33 are dependent on these independent claims are for that reason and because of the additional limitations of these claims, these claims are believed to be allowable.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 24-0037 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,



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